

Vermont Council on Housing and Homelessness

Wednesday, April 10th, from 1:30 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Minutes 4.10.2024

- Call to order (1:33)
- Review agenda
- Public comment (1:34)
 - None
- Mission, outcomes, subcommittee structure, SMART goals (2:00)
- Root causes of homelessness: In addition to those listed on our slides the council discussed:
 - When services are out of reach.
 - Housing shortage driving affordability (I think "when housing is out of reach" covers this).
 - Availability of rental subsidies (I think "when housing is out of reach" covers this).
 - Lack of a high school diploma or its equivalent is related to homelessness (I am not sure if this is a root cause or a related indicator).
 - Geographic location of available housing versus where people can work (I wonder if "when housing is out of reach" covers this or if we need to call out that some of the available housing is rural and not close to job vacancies and needed services).
- Root causes of housing shortage: **We need input here.**
- I believe the council approved the mission as written.
- The council debated revising the vision. I adjusted it accordingly.
- The council discussed the goals but did not settle on any. There was discussion of adding a goal pertaining to increased shelter beds and a goal pertaining to adding affordable housing. **We need to finalize the goals.**
- The council debated how best to organize sub-committees. I believe Chris Winters and Alex Farrell are going to make a final decision on this soon.

Recommendation to the council to settle on a mission and vision and focus your time on building clearly defined goals and on establishing sub-committees. Once you are organized into sub-committees with clear membership and leadership, work on concrete things that enable you to achieve goals over time. Achieving goals enables the state to achieve its vision

for the future. There can be revisions to items as progress is made. Example: The council might initially set a goal to increase the number of shelter beds by X and later find they can lower the number as more affordable housing becomes available.

- Sub-committees – Work on Revamping and re organizing.

- Confirm next and future meeting topics (2:45)
 - **5/8/2024- Full Council Meeting 1:30-3: 00 pm**

- Close meeting (2:38)